

Alexandria Archaeological Commission  
Minutes of October 17, 2018 Meeting

**Members Present:**

Elizabeth (Indy) McCall, Member at Large  
(Chair)  
Ivy Whitlatch, Planning District I (Vice  
Chair)  
Ann Davin, Alexandria Association  
(Secretary)  
Jacob (Jake) Hoogland, Member at Large  
Mark Ludlow, Member at Large  
Janice Magnuson, Planning District III  
Richard Owens, Friends of Alexandria  
Archaeology  
Edward (Ted) Pulliam, Member at Large  
Ralph Rosenbaum, Member at Large

Seth Tinkham, Historic Alexandria  
Foundation  
Esther White, Planning District II

**Members Absent:**

Georgia (Katy) Canady, Alexandria  
Historical Society  
Dylan Colligan, Business Community

**Staff:**

Eleanor Breen, City Archaeologist

**Guests:**

Mandy Gill, Federal Energy Regulatory  
Commission (FERC)  
Matty McCoy, HARC

**Call to Order:**

Indy called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

**Review and Approval of Minutes:**

Postponed to November meeting

**Chair Reports: Elizabeth (Indy) McCall**

HARC Update

Indy reported to AAC that HARC had discussed RiverRenew and reviewed the draft plans for the the combined sewer diversion tunnels at the outfalls associated with the four different options. Thursday, October 25 is the deadline for submitting comments to the National Park Services (NPS) for the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) process, but RiverRenew will continue to accept input after that date. The technological assessment has not been completed so commenting on the National Environmental Protection Act/Section 106 process may be premature at this point. So far, RiverRenew, as project manager, is doing a good job in getting information out to the stakeholders.

Alexandria Archaeology staff is reviewing the plans as part of the development special use permit and will write a letter to RiverRenew stating their preferences. The drop shaft locations may impact both archaeological resources and above ground resources. Historic resources may be impacted by construction vibration and other activities associated with a large construction project. The projected paths are near existing sewer systems to minimize impacts.

AAC 's fairly narrow mandate is selecting our preferred route. AAC is going to confine comments to evaluating the impacts to archaeology and the historic fabric. A motion was made to write a letter supporting 1) the River Route, 2) Archaeology Staff's recommendations as to

where shafts (diversion facilities) are to be located, and 3) request that AAC be recognized as a formal consulting partner in the 106 process. We ask that RiverRenew continue to work with the City as a Certified Local Government and Alexandria Archaeology, a division of the Office of Historic Archaeology (OHA). Esther White moved that this motion be approved, Mark Ludlow seconded it, and all AAC members agreed.

#### Naming Committee

Indy reported that HARC is going to set up a meeting date for those interested in naming the Waterfront Interim Park. Craig Fifer gave briefing to HARC on the Naming Committee meeting which at this point includes City Council member Redella “Del” Pepper, Timothy B. Lovain, and Jack Browand. Recommendations to the committee are due by Friday, November 16.

There has been some discussion as to whether there should one or two parks. HARC has agreed to one park. The Waterfront Commission has agreed to the idea of one park and one name. Esther made a motion that AAC support one park and one name, Jake seconded, and all AAC members agreed.

From Indy's perspective the Park's name should have a historic theme or relevance. Some Alexandrians have objected to using Fitzgerald as it had not yet gone through the naming process. Additional concerns included the fact that he was a slave owner.

AAC can present multiple options for names. Indy will coordinate a meeting with AAC members along with Eleanor Breen, to discuss the naming of the Waterfront Interim Park. It was decided to convene the meeting before Wednesday, November 14 to review and discuss the thematic areas described in the Waterfront History Plan and have naming recommendations ready by the November 16 deadline. A motion was made by Mark to hold this meeting, seconded by Janice Magnuson, and agreed to by all AAC members. Eleanor will send out an email with the agreed upon meeting date and time.

Indy reported that she had raised, with Emily Baker, Director of the Department of Project Implementation, the issue of folding Windmill Park into the Waterfront Park History Plan. Emily indicated that she is supportive of the Waterfront History Plan and the inclusion of Windmill Park.

#### Budget- Current and Future Plans

After discussion, it was decided that Indy would use AAC's last year's budget request letter to City Council as a starting point and include the following new and amended items:

1. \$75,000 for unexpected discoveries (raised from \$50,000);
2. \$125,000 to hire a consultant for a feasibility study for a Maritime Museum/History facility;
3. Upgrade part-time positions to full-time professional staff positions;
4. Waterfront History Interpretative Plan to be funded.

A feasibility study is necessary to determine the type of facility Alexandria needs that will serve as a focal point for all OHA resources, including not only ships, but the other museums as well.

#### **Planning Updates and Reports (as needed)**

##### African American Trail Committee

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 25 and will start at 9 a.m., at the bottom of King Street.

#### Fort Ward Stakeholders Meeting

The last Stakeholders Meeting was not well attended, and Design Minds are planning to hold another meeting next week solicit more input.

#### Waterfront Commission

Ted Pulliam reported that the Waterfront Commission has sent a letter to City Council supporting funding for the History Interpretative Plan.

#### **Miscellaneous Business**

Indy moved that the November meeting occur on Wednesday, November 14, to avoid conflicting with Thanksgiving holiday plans. Jake seconded the motion and all AAC members agreed.

Volunteer holiday party will be Saturday, January 19, 2019.

#### **Record Volunteer Hours**

Adjournment- Motion to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. made by Ann Davin and seconded by Ralph Rosenbaum and agreed to by all members.